

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An expression Expression-system, characterized in that it ~~comprises comprising~~ successively, in the 5'-3' direction:
~~, a nucleotide sequence encoding a soluble protein;~~
a nucleotide sequence encoding the dipeptide Asp-Pro; and
a nucleotide sequence encoding a toxic membrane protein or a transmembrane domain of a ~~the~~ toxic membrane protein.
2. (Currently Amended) The expression Expression-system according to Claim 1, in ~~which~~wherein the toxic membrane protein is a membrane protein or a domain of a membrane protein of a viral ~~an~~ envelope protein of a virus.
3. (Currently Amended) The expression Expression-system according to Claim 2, in ~~which~~wherein the virus is ~~chosen~~selected from the group consisting of hepatitis C virus, the AIDS virus, a virus that is pathogenic for humans, and a virus that is pathogenic for a mammal.
4. (Currently Amended) The expression Expression-system according to Claim 1, in ~~which~~wherein the toxic membrane protein is a transmembrane protein ~~or a domain of a~~ transmembrane protein of the hepatitis C virus.
5. (Currently Amended) ExpressionThe expression system according to Claim 1, in ~~which~~wherein the toxic membrane protein is a protein of sequence ID No. 1 or ID No. 2 of the attached sequence listing ~~comprises~~ SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 2.
6. (Currently Amended) ExpressionThe expression system according to Claim 1, in ~~which~~wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the toxic membrane protein is ~~chosen~~ from the

~~sequence ID No. 3 and the sequence ID No. 4 of the attached sequence listing comprises SEQ ID NO: 3 or SEQ ID NO: 4.~~

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Expression~~The expression system according to Claim 6, ~~in which~~wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the dipeptide Asp-Pro is gaccgg.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Expression~~The expression system according to ~~Claim 8~~Claim 1, ~~in which~~wherein the soluble protein is glutathione S-transferase or thioredoxin.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Expression~~The expression system according to Claim 1, ~~encoding~~wherein the expression system encodes a fusion protein ~~having~~comprising a sequence ~~chosenselected~~ from the group consisting of the sequences ~~ID No. 46, ID No. 47, ID No. 48, ID No. 49, ID No. 50 and ID No. 51~~ of the attached sequence listing ~~SEQ ID NOS: 46-51~~.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Expression~~The expression system according to Claim 8, wherein ~~said~~the expression system ~~having~~comprises a sequence ~~chosenselected~~ from the group consisting of the sequences ~~ID No. 34, ID No. 35, ID No. 36, ID No. 37, ID No. 38 and ID No. 39~~ of the attached sequence listing ~~SEQ ID NOS: 34-39~~.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Bacterial~~A bacterial expression vector comprising ~~an~~the expression system according to Claim 1, cloned into a plasmid.

13. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) ~~Bacterial~~A bacterial expression vector comprising ~~an~~the expression system according to Claim 1 and the oligonucleotide sequence of the pT7-7 plasmid.

14. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) ~~Bacterial~~A bacterial expression vector ~~eonsisting~~ ~~efcomprising~~ the sequence ~~ID No. 44 or ID No. 45~~ of the attached sequence listing ~~SEQ ID NO: 44 or SEQ ID NO: 45~~.

15. (Currently Amended) Bacterial A bacterial expression vector comprising an the expression system according to Claim 1 and the oligonucleotide sequence of a plasmid chosenselected from the group consisting of pGEXKT and pET32a.

16. (Currently Amended) The bacterial Bacterial expression vector according to Claim 15, consisting of wherein the bacterial expression vector comprises a sequence chosenselected from the group consisting of the sequences ID No. 40, ID No. 41, ID No. 42 and ID No. 43 of the attached sequence listing SEQ ID NOS: 40-43.

17. (Currently Amended) Prokaryotic A prokaryotic cell transformed with an the expression vector according to Claim 12.

18. (Currently Amended) The prokaryotic cell according to Claim 17, wherein the prokaryotic cell is an E. coli prokaryotic cell according to Claim 17.

19. (Currently Amended) Method A method for producing a toxic membrane protein or a transmembrane domain of the toxic membrane protein by genetic recombination, comprising the following steps:

- transforming a host cell with an the expression system according to Claim 1,
- culturing the transformed host cell under culture conditions such that it produces a fusion protein comprising the dipeptide Asp-Pro followed by the peptide sequence of the toxic membrane protein or the transmembrane domain of the toxic membrane protein from said the expression vector, and
- isolating said the fusion protein.

20. (Currently Amended) Method The method according to Claim 19, also comprising wherein the method further comprises the following a step:
consisting in cleaving said the fusion protein so as to recover the toxic membrane protein or the transmembrane domain of the toxic membrane protein.

21. (Currently Amended) Method The method according to Claim 20, in which wherein the step consisting in of cleaving said the fusion protein so as to recover the toxic membrane protein

or the transmembrane domain of the toxic membrane protein is carried out by reacting formic acid on the fusion protein with formic acid.

22. (Currently Amended) Method The method according to Claim 19, in which wherein the host cell is an E. coli cell.

23. (Currently Amended) Method The method according to Claim 19, in which wherein the expression system encodes a fusion protein having a sequence ehosenselected from the group consisting of the sequences ID No. 46, ID No. 47, ID No. 48, ID No. 49, ID No. 50 and ID No. 51 of the attached sequence listing SEQ ID NOS: 46-51.

24. (Currently Amended) Method The method according to Claim 19, in which wherein the expression system has comprises a sequence ehosenselected from the group consisting of the sequences ID No. 34, ID No. 35, ID No. 36, ID No. 37, ID No. 38 and ID No. 39 of the attached sequence listing SEQ ID NOS: 34-39.

25. (Currently Amended) Method The method according to Claim 19, in which wherein the expression vector eonsists comprises of a sequence ehosenselected from the group consisting of the sequences ID No. 40, ID No. 41, ID No. 42, ID No. 43, ID No. 44 and ID No. 45 of the attached sequence listing SEQ ID NOS: 40-45.

26. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) Fusion A fusion protein having comprising a peptide sequence ehosenselected from the group consisting of the sequences ID No. 46, ID No. 47, ID No. 48, ID No. 49, ID No. 50 and ID No. 51 of the attached sequence listing SEQ ID NOS: 46-51.